

On the generic affiliation of the taxon *efflexa* Xiao & Li, 2006 (Tineidae)

REINHARD GAEDIKE

Florusstraße 5, 53225 Bonn, Germany; e-mail: tinagma@msn.com

Abstract. The taxon *efflexa* Xiao & Li, 2006, described in the genus *Montetinea*, is transferred to the genus *Crypsithyris*, according to close relationships recognised in external characters of the adults and male and female genitalia.

In 2006, Xiao & Li described a new moth species from China, *Montetinea efflexa* (Lepidoptera: Tineidae). However, the illustrations provided for the habitus, male, and female genitalia show very close relationships with members of *Crypsithyris* Meyrick, 1907. Particularly characteristic is the shape of the sclerotizations in the corpus bursae, which is only known from *Crypsithyris*. This character has been previously illustrated for *Crypsithyris* by Xiao & Li (2005). Because of the presence of this character and the absence of contradicting, most parsimonious arguments, the taxon *efflexa* Xiao & Li has to be considered as a member of *Crypsithyris* Meyrick and is transferred herewith to this genus:

Crypsithyris efflexa (Xiao & Li, 2006), comb. nov.

Although Xiao & Li (2006) mention that they describe the female genitalia of *Montetinea* Petersen, 1957 for the first time, this is incorrect. As early as 1962, Parenti described the female genitalia of *Montetinea montana* Petersen, 1957 and provided some important records on the life history of the species. The specimens mentioned by Parenti (1962) were found in a cave with bat guano, which indicates that the larvae might be coprophagous, but not lichenophagous as it has been presumed earlier (Petersen 1957).

References

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